

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 AID-05 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /057 W  
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R 260454Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1235

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT MORESBY 0161

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PP

SUBJ: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: REPLY TO QUESTIONNAIRE

REF: STATE 37591

1. INTERESTS AND OBJECTIVES: PNG'S PRIMARY MULTILATERAL INTERESTS AND OBJECTIVES IN 1976 ARE, IN GENERAL, AS OUTLINED IN PRIME MINISTER SOMARE'S ADDRESS TO THE UNGA ON OCTOBER 10, 1975. FONSEC SIAGURU INFORMED US PNG'S FINAL DECISION ON POLICY TOWARD SOUTH PACIFIC NUCLEAR FREE ZONE WILL NOT BE REACHED UNTIL AFTER SOUTH PACIFIC FORUM MEETING IN NEW ZEALAND NEXT MONTH WHERE SUBJECT WILL BE DISCUSSED. GPNG WILL IN PARTICULAR CONSULT CLOSELY WITH FIJI. SIAGURU ANTICIPATES THAT PNG POSITION, WHEN EVENTUALLY ESTABLISHED, WILL BE TO SUPPORT SPNFZ, BUT NOT ACTIVELY.

2. SIAGURU SAID PNG IS INTERESTED IN HAVING SEAT ON COMMITTEE OF 24. WOULD LIKE TO TAKE AUSTRALIA'S SEAT, BUT WILL PROBABLY NOT ACTIVELY SEEK IT. PNG WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN WORK ON DECOLONIZATION BUT FINDS SELF-DETERMINATION A TOUCHY SUBJECT, AND GPNG WILL HAVE TO GIVE CAREFUL THOUGHT TO THE PRECISE WORDING OF ANY RESOLUTION ON SELF-DETERMINATION.

3. GPNG IS VERY, VERY MUCH INTERESTED IN BECOMING ASSOCIATE MEMBER OF EEC, BUT WE ASSUME REFTEL IS NOT CONCERNED WITH EEC.

4. INFLUENCE OF OTHER GOVT: FIJI, AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND  
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INFLUENCE GPNG MULTILATERAL POLICY, AND PROBABLY IN THAT ORDER.

INDONESIA INFLUENCES MULTILATERAL POLICY WHEN IT AFFECTS INDONESIA (EAST TIMOR, FOR EXAMPLE). WE DOUBT THAT THE RADICAL AFRICANS HAVE MUCH INFLUENCE ON PNG BUT USUN MAY BE BETTER INFORMED THAN WE. GPNG'S EAGERNESS TO BECOME ASSOCIATE MEMBER OF EEC COULD MAKE IT VULNERABLE TO PRESSURE FROM EEC MEMBERS. WE DOUBT THAT GPNG INFLUENCES ANY OTHER COUNTRY.

5. INSTRUCTIONS TO DELS: WE SUSPECT GPNG TELLS PNG DEL TO ABSTAIN ON MOST ISSUES BUT ASK FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON ISSUES AFFECTING PNG. THE VERY SMALL AND INEXPERIENCED PNG STAFF AT UN PROBABLY DROPS THE BALL FROM TIME TO TIME. PNG STAFF AT UN DOES NOT HAVE INDEPENDENT POLITICAL BASE WHICH WOULD MAKE CONTROL DIFFICULT.

6. U.S. REPRESENTATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE ALWAYS LISTENS COURTEOUSLY TO OUR REPRESENTATIONS. HOWEVER, GPNG HAS ALREADY DECIDED TO ABSTAIN ON MOST ISSUES AND BELIEVES THAT THE USG SHOULD ACCEPT THIS DECISION. THE THOUGHT THAT THE USG MIGHT TAKE ACTION IN SOME WAY AGAINST PNG BECAUSE OF ITS UN VOTING PATTERN IS DISTURBING TO THE GPNG, BUT EVEN MORE DISTURBING IS THE POSSIBILITY THAT VOTING WITH THE USG WILL CREATE ENEMIES FOR PNG AMONG OTHER COUNTRIES. GPNG BELIEVES THE LEAST HAZARDOUS POLICY WILL BE TO ABSTAIN ON MOST ISSUES. GPNG HAS NOT SOLICITED USG SUPPORT THROUGH THE EMBASSY ON MATTERS OF SUBSTANCE OR ON ITS APPROACH TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. IN SOME INSTANCES THE GPNG IS ALREADY AWARE THAT THE U.S. POSITION IS OPPOSED TO THE PNG POSITION (SPNFZ, FOR EXAMPLE) OR IN OTHER INSTANCES KNOWS USG CANNOT HELP (ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP IN EEC, FOR EXAMPLE.) GPNG IS ALSO AWARE THE U.S. INTERESTS ARE MINOR IN THE AREA OF KEENEST INTEREST TO GPNG: THE SOUTH PACIFIC.

7. THE ONLY GPNG APPROACH TO USG RE MULTILATERAL ORGANIZATION TOOK PLACE WHEN PRIME MINISTER SOMARE RAISED QUESTION WITH AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN ABOUT HELP IN ASSURING IBRD ABOUT PNG'S CREDITWORTHINESS, AND MOYNIHAN ASSURED SOMARE THAT HE WOULD ACT ON SOMARE'S REQUEST (75 USUN 5034). WE ARE NOT AWARE THAT ANY FOLLOW-UP TOOK PLACE, BUT SUPPORT OF THIS KIND, SOLICITED AT HIGH LEVEL, WOULD VASTLY BENEFIT OUR APPROACHES TO THE GPNG ON MULTILATERAL MATTERS WHEN WE WANT THEIR SUPPORT.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, NUCLEAR FREE ZONES, SELFDETERMINATION, UNGA RESOLUTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 FEB 1976  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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